

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 SY-05 OPR-02 A-01 OC-06 CCO-00 USSS-00 SS-15

NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SCCT-01 PM-04 SP-02 L-03

SCA-01 DHA-02 IO-13 PRS-01 PA-01 /092 W

----- 109665

O R 121513Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1072

INFO AMCONSUL STUTTGART

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON ENGLAND

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GERMANY

COMSIXTHFLT

COMPHILBRON FOUR

COM THREE TWO MAU

CTF SIX ZERO

CTF SIX ONE

CTF SIX TWO

CTG SIX ZERO PT TWO

FICEURLANT NORFOLK, VA

FOSIF ROTA SPAIN

DIA WASHDC

CINCUSAREUR, HEIDELBERG GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 6151

STUTTGART FOR ELG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, LE

SUBJECT: CUTBACK IN EMBASSY PROTECTIVE SERVICES

1. WE INFORMED TODAY BY LIEUTENANT IN CHARGE OF
LEBANESE ARAB ARMY GUARD DETACHMENT PROTECTING
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EMBASSY THAT BECAUSE OF SETBACKS ON BATTLE FRONTS,

SIZE OF DETACHMENT IS BEING REDUCED FROM BETWEEN EIGHT AND TWELVE TO FOUR, TO PERMIT OTHERS TO FIGHT AT FRONT. LIEUTENANT TELLS US THE UNIT WITHDRAWAL IS FOR MISSION LASTING ONE WEEK AFTER WHICH THEY EXPECT RETURN TO CHANCERY SECURITY DUTY. TANK, WHICH PERIODICALLY FIRES HAPHAZARDLY INTO BLUE MEDITERRANEAN, WILL REMAIN.

2. EARLIER, OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF PLO GROUP WHICH PROVIDES ARMED ESCORT FOR MOVEMENTS OF FOREIGN DIGNITARIES (AS WELL AS OF AMBASSADOR) HAD STATED THAT SIZE THIS ESCORT BEING REDUCED FOR SIMILAR REASON.

3. COMMENT: THIS DEVELOPMENT, WHICH IS CLEARLY RESULT OF PLO LOSSES IN FIGHTING, BEARS CLOSE WATCHING. PERMANENT CUTS COULD POSE RISKS TO SECURITY OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL, AND WOULD NECESSITATE SOME BASIC DECISIONS. WILL REPORT AS SITUATION DEVELOPS. SEELYE

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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